

Tredegar Urban District Council



Public Health Department

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(DR. M. J. DONELAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

AND

Senior Public Health Inspector

(OSWALD GRIFFITHS F.R.S.H.)

FOR THE YEAR

1972

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
Dr. M.J. Donelan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.



TREDEGAR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman (1972) : Councillor J.L. Thomas.
Chairman (1972) : Public Health Committee : Councillor H.R. Davies.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

West Ward

Councillor H. Davies.
Councillor J.L. Thomas.
Councillor R. Williams.
Councillor W.G. Bevan.

Central Ward

Councillor B.D. White.
Councillor A. Donaldson.
Councillor A. Scott.
Councillor W.H. Davies.

Georgetown Ward

Councillor R. Davies.
Councillor H.R. Davies.
Councillor (Mrs.) I. Powell.
Councillor (Mrs.) I. Davies.

Sirhowy Ward

Councillor E. Hughes.
Councillor R. Watkins.
Councillor D. Francis.
Councillor M.G. Jones.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. M.J. Donelan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

O. Griffiths, F.R.S.H.

Certificated Public Health Inspector, The Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board, 1937.

Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, 1938.

Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.

Certificate of Food Hygiene, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.

Deputy Public Health Inspector:

K. Jone , M.A.P.H.I.

Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Examination Board, 1970.

Clerical Officers:

Miss C. Smith.

Miss C. Matthews.

Public Cleansing Foreman:

Mr. E. Loader.

Caretaker of Public Offices and Council Chauffeur:

Mr. G. Vaughan.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Public Health Department,
Bedwellty House,
TREDEGAR,
Mon. NP2 3XN.

December, 1973.

To the Chairman and Members of the Tredegar Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with much pleasure that I submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1972, which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 1/73 Wales, issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of district in acres	8,148
Population estimated mid-year	17,660
Number of inhabited houses	6,020
Number of persons per house	3.06
Rateable value of district (1st April, 1972)	£387,659
No. of rated properties in the district	7,296
Product of a ld. rate (31st March, 1973)	£8,645
Number of live births	239
Number of illegitimate births - live	20
Number of still births	4
Live birth rate	14.9
Still birth rate prr 1,000 population	.22
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	16.0
Number of deaths of residents	235
Number of births over deaths	4
Death rate per 1,000 population crude	13.3
Number of deaths under one year	3
Number of illegitimate deaths under one year	0
Early neo natal death rate, per 1,000 live births	8.0
Neo natal death rate per 1,000 live births	13.0
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births	13.0
Legitimate infant death rate, per 1,000 legitimate live births	14.0
Peri natal mortality rate	25.0
Comparability factor - births	1.10
- deaths	1.00
Average age of death - females	62
- males	69
Number of houses owned by the local authority (31st March, 1972)	2,000
County population estimated mid year	351,660

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
No. of Live Births (legitimate)	112	107	219
(illegitimate)	10	10	20
	<u>122</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>239</u>

Birth Rate (Ares Comparability Factor = 1.10) Local.. Adjusted Rate.

For Tredegar .	14.9 per 1,000 population
For County	15.8 " " "
For England and Wales	14.8 " " "

The comparability factor for Tredegar for births is 1.10. The live birth rate is down on that for last year. There were 6 less births this year than last.

The ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate is 1.00. Illegitimate live births as a percentage of all live births is 8.9 as against 9.0 for England and Wales. For the County this figure is 7.0

STILL BIRTHS

No. of Still Births	Males	Females	Total
(Legitimate)	2.0	2.0	4.0
(Illegitimate)	0.0	0.0	0.0
	<u>2.0</u>	<u>2.0</u>	<u>4.0</u>

Still Birth Rate

For Tredegar	.22 per 1,000 population
For County	.18 " " "
For England and Wales	.17 " " "
For Tredegar	16.0 per 1,000 total births (live & still)
For County	12.0 " " " " " " "
For England and Wales	12.0 " " " " " " "

This latter rate shows the same value as for 1971.

Rates for the previous years are:-

16.0 for 1971
11.0 for 1970
17.0 for 1969
46.2 for 1968
6.1 for 1967
32.9 for 1966
22.4 for 1965

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths in Tredegar	128	107	235

This gives a crude death rate of 13.3 per 1,000 population.

The corrected death rate per 1,000 population using the comparability

factor	13.3
County	13.1
England and Wales	12.1

The rate for Tredegar of 13.3 is down on 15.2 for 1971. Rates for previous years are as follows:

115.2 for 1971
14.8 for 1970
15.98 for 1969
12.54 for 1968
15.73 for 1967
16.95 for 1966
12.41 for 1965

MATERNAL DEATH RATE

There were no maternal deaths in Tredegar during the year.

Tredegar	..	..	..	..	..	..	NIL
County	..	..	..	..	..	..	NIL

INFANTILE DEATHS

A. Early neo Natal Deaths

Deaths of infants under one week:

					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	0	0	0
					<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

Early Neo Natal Deaths Rate as follows:

Deaths under one week of age per 1,000 live births:

Tredegar	..	..	..	..	..	8.0
County	..	..	..	..	..	8.0
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	10.0

B. Neo Natal Deaths

Deaths of infants under four weeks:

					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
					<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

This gives a

Neo Natal Death Rate as follows:

Deaths under four weeks of age per 1,000 live births:

Tredegar	..	..	..	..	..	13.0
County	..	..	..	..	..	10.0
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	12.0

C. Infant Deaths

Deaths of infants under one year of age:

					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
					<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

This gives a

Infantile Death Rate as follows:

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births:

Tredegar	..	..	..	..	..	13.0
County	..	..	..	..	..	17.0
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	17.0

D. Illegitimate Infant Deaths

Death rate of illegitimate infants under one year of age per 1,000 illegitimate live births:

Tredegar	..	..	..	..	..	0.0
County	..	..	..	..	..	17.0
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	21.0

E. Legitimate Infant Deaths

Deaths of legitimate Infants under one year of age:

Legitimate	Males	Females	Total
	1	2	3

Legitimate Infant Death Rate as follows:

Deaths of legitimate infants under one year of age per 1,000 legitimate live births:

Tredegar	14.0
England and Wales	17.0
County	17.0

F. Perinatal Deaths

Deaths of infants under one week plus still births:

Deaths under one week	Still Births	Total
2	4	6

This gives a Perinatal Death Rate as follows:

Deaths of infants under one week of age plus still births per 1,000 total live and still births:

Tredegar	25.0
County	20.0
England and Wales	22.0

G. Early Neo Natal Death Rate

Deaths of infants under 1 week per 1,000 total live births

Tredegar	8
County	8
England and Wales	10

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS
UNDER ONE YEAR

Diseases	No. of Deaths
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour	2

DISEASES NOTIFIED

Disease	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 9	10 14	15 24	25 44	45 65	65 & over	Total
Measles	0	3	4	4	8	27	1	1	0	0	0	48
T.B. (Forms A+1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Food Poisoning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Meningitis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Totals	1	3	4	4	8	28	1	3	0	0	0	52

CAUSES OF DEATH

No.	Cause of Death	M	F	Total
B4	Enteritis, etc.	-	1	1
B5	TB of Respiratory System	2	-	2
B19(1)	Malignancy - Buccal Cavity	1	-	1
B19(2)	" Oesophagus	-	2	2
B19(3)	" Stomach	3	4	7
B19(4)	" Intestine	4	3	7
B19(6)	" Lung and Bronchus	8	-	8
B19(7)	" Breast	-	5	5
B19(8)	" Uterus	-	1	1
B19(9)	" Prostate	2	-	2
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	6	9
B21	Diabetes Mellitis	1	2	3
B23	Anaemias	1	1	2
B46(4)	Multiple Sclerosis	-	1	1
B46(5)	Other diseases of nervous system	1	-	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	-	3	3
B27	Hypertensive disease	-	3	3
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	41	21	62
B29	Other forms of heart disease	5	5	10
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	15	22	37
B46(6)	Other diseases of circulatory system	5	8	13
B32	Pneumonia	6	2	8
B33	Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	2	13
B46(7)	Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-	3
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	2	3
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
B46(8)	Other diseases of digestive system	1	3	4
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	3	4
B39	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
B46(a)	Other diseases of Genito-Urinary system	1	1	2
B46(11)	Diseases of Muscular-skeletal system	1	1	2
B42	Congenital Anomalies	1	-	1
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	1	2
B45	Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	-	1
EE47	Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
EE48	All other accidents	3	3	6
Totals		128	107	235

Tuberculosis

NEW CASES

Males		Females		
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmon'y	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmon'y	Total
5	0	0	1	6

DEATHS DUE TO TUBERCULOSIS

Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1	1	2

OCCUPATIONAL INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS

Occupation	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Not Ascertained	1	0
Old age Pensioner	4	0
Housewife CAP	0	1
Total	5	1

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

M. J. DONEGAN, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

1. Name of the person or organization 2. Address 3. City, State, Zip 4. Country

1. Name of the person or organization			
2. Address	3. City, State, Zip	4. Country	5. Telephone

1. Name of the person or organization
 2. Address
 3. City, State, Zip
 4. Country

1. Name of the person or organization
 2. Address
 3. City, State, Zip
 4. Country

1. Name of the person or organization
 2. Address
 3. City, State, Zip
 4. Country

1. Name of the person or organization
 2. Address
 3. City, State, Zip
 4. Country

1. Name of the person or organization

2. Address

3. City, State, Zip

4. Country

5. Telephone

6. Fax

7. E-mail

8. Internet

9. Other

10. Comments

11. Signature

12. Date

13. Initials

14. Stamp

15. Other

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
O. Griffiths, F.R.S.M.

Chapter 1

Introduction

The purpose of this book is to provide a comprehensive overview of the subject matter.

Chapter 2

SECTION 1.

Water Supply + Power + Abandonment.



PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Public Health Department,
Bedwellty House,
TREDEGAR,
Mon. NP23XN.

December, 1973.

To the Chairman and Members of the Tredegar Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you, my report for the year 1972.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Section 1

WATER SUPPLY + RIVERS + STREAMS

The main source of supply is the Shon Sheffrey Reservoir which is fed from a large catchment area and a reliable spring. The reservoir has a capacity of 77,000,000 gallons with a top water level of approximately 1,200 ft. A.O.D.

There are also two other reservoirs further to the south in the Georgetown area. One is Scotch Peter Reservoir with a capacity of 22,000,000 gallons and a top water level of 1,622 ft. A.O.D. and St. James Reservoir of 14,000,000 gallons capacity and a top water level of 1,228 ft. A.O.D.

The safe renewable yield of all sources is in the region of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 m.g.d. and all water is filtered and chlorinated before being passed into the distribution system.

The undertaking requires treated water in bulk to parts of the area of the Bedwellty and Rhymney Towns.

The average condition of 1972 proved to be favourable for the Water Undertaking. Our reservoirs never gave rise for concern being either in or near overflow conditions most of the time.

The total consumption per head per day was 65.32 as compared with 62.78 last year.

For the year January to December, 1972, the total water passed to distributions was as follows:-

Tredegar	.	..	..	..	..	421,066,380
Rhymney	...	..	..	..	..	3,417,860
Bedwellty	..	..	..	..	..	206,456,000

During the year, no part of the district suffered from a lack of an adequate and wholesome water supply for any reason.

A scheme by which water was passed from Shon Sheffrey Spring to the Georgetown Reservoirs enabled an adequate reserve of water to be maintained in all three reservoirs.

The Tredegar Water Undertaking became part of the Gwent Water Board in April, 1970, Tredegar being one of the Constituent Authorities.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory		Total
	Raw	Treated	Raw	Treated	
TREDEGAR U.D.	Nil	45	Nil	3	48

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLY

Three samples of water were taken and analysed chemically. The results showed a ph value of 9.3, 7.6 and 6.6 and were found to be satisfactory.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION FOR THE PRESENCE OF LEAD (Pb)

Ten samples of water were taken for examination for the presence of lead. Nine samples showed slight Plumbo-Solvency. These results were passed on immediately to the Gwent Water Board for their information and action.

Date	Temperature			Mean Temp			Rainfall		Days with Rain	Days with Snow	Nights with Accrual Frost	Average Daily sun-shine
	Max.	Min.	Mean	Day	Night	Month	Total	in inches				
JAN.	9.0 °C	0.4 °C	0.3 °C	3.1	1.2	2.0	20.0	27.5	25	3	3	hrs 1.0
FEB.	7.0	-8.5	-9.0	2.1	1.0	3.0	21.0	9.5	22	2	14	1.1
MAR.	17.2	-0.5	-0.2	9.4	2.4	3.0	16.4	22.2	20	-	14	2.7
APR.	12.5	0.5	-3.5	9.4	3.4	6.7	139.3	20.3	17	-	9	5.5
MAY	15.0	1.0	-4.0	11.6	5.2	8.7	185.3	29.5	23	-	6	3.7
JUNE	17.0	2.2	-1.0	12.7	6.4	9.5	17.1	16.3	24	-	-	3.3
JULY	23.7	5.1	2.3	18.3	10.6	14.4	3.1	7.7	8	-	-	5.5
AUG.	22.5	4.7	-0.2	18.3	10.0	14.1	7.1	17.9	12	-	1	6.5
SEPT.	19.2	1.7	-2.0	14.2	6.0	10.1	5.1	53.3	8	-	6	4.2
OCT.	15.9	-2.0	-4.4	12.1	5.2	9.3	1.1	31.6	13	-	6	2.6
NOV.	13.0	-6.0	-7.5	8.1	1.9	5.0	15.3	33.7	19	2	20	2.2
DEC.	12.0	-2.5	-5.5	7.5	28.7	15.1	301.9	41.0	23	-	16	0.8
TOTALS	134.1	-3.9	-34.7	132.3	78.2	104.9	1789.9	330.6	214	7	95	39.2
MEANS	153.3	-0.3	-2.9	11.2	5.5	8.7	149.1	-	-	-	-	-

OPEN AIR SWIMMING BATH

This pool, one of the largest in South Wales, was open to the public in 1931 at the total cost of £10,000. The pool is constructed of 7 - ft. reinforced concrete at the deep end and 5 -ft. reinforced concrete at the shallow end, with a 4 inch raft of plain concrete forming the floor. The pool is 200 feet long and 50 feet wide with a capacity of 257,000 gallons of water. It is 8 ft. 6 ins. deep, rising to 2 ft. 6 ins. at the shallow end.

The water is taken from the town main and passed into the bath after filtration and chlorination. The water is sampled regularly to ensure that there is the proper amount of free chlorine present and also to ensure that the bacterial content is at a satisfactory level. All samples taken during the year were found to be satisfactory.

Usually the bath is open to the public from the middle of May to the beginning of September, but its popularity depends, of course, on the weather. During the summer like that of 1959, 39,000 people attended the bath, while 1966 with its wet, cold summer only 9,000 attended. This year's total attendance was 39,281. The bath is supervised by a Bath Manager.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The main river - the Sirhovy - rises on the Moollands Plateau, 1,500 ft. above m.s.l. and runs in a direction from North to South through the district. It is a fast flowing mountain river entering the Shon Sheffrey Reservoir a mile from its source. In its passage through the district, it is joined by the Nant Trefil, Nant Mill Gate, Nantybwh and Nant Melyn

All the banks of the main river and the streams are sites for indiscriminative tipping of household refuse, builders refuse and odds and ends that are thrown out from human habitations. This practice, which apart from creating eyesores, gives rise to extensive rat and fly breeding with its consequent perils.

These river banks should be areas of peace and beauty if only people would resist the urge to pollute and soil every square inch of unusable land almost as quickly as they are polluted and regular inspections are made by the Rodent Operative to check rat breeding.

SEWERAGE

The main trunk sewer lies along the river bed through the district eventually discharging its effluent, after suitable treatment, into the River Severn near St. Brides (West of Newport).

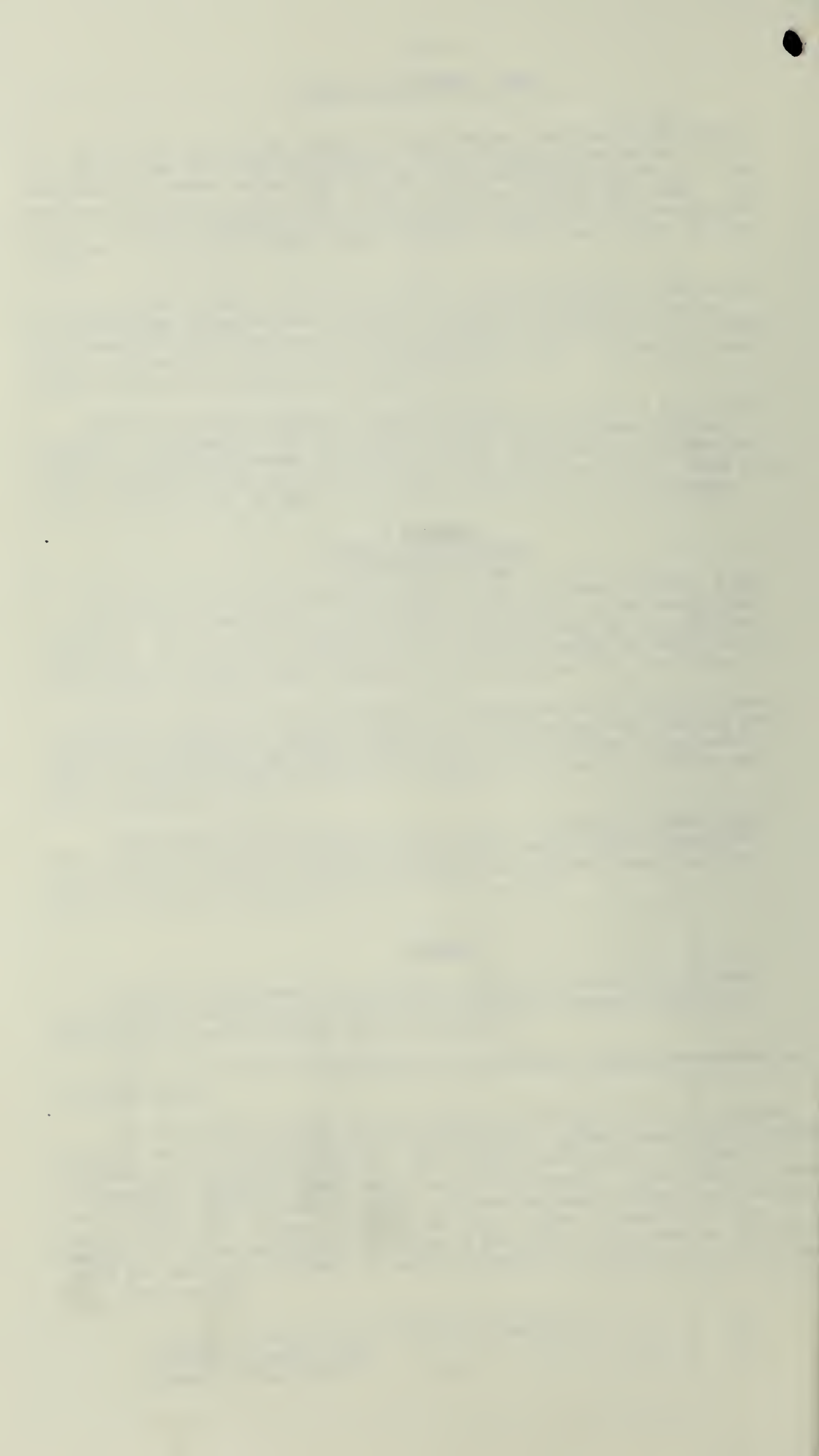
This sewer is the responsibility of the Western Valleys (Monmouthshire) Sewerage Board.

The subsidiary sewerage system draining the Urban Area is the responsibility of the Tredegar Council. The subsidiary system, apart from draining the built up area in the district, also drains the outlying villages of Tafarnaubach, Bedwellty Pits, Trefil and Tredrhiwgwair. A few outlying farms and cottages that are some distance away from the nearest sewer rely on the use of elsan type closets, dry closets, septic tanks or cess pits. The majority of these properties that rely on this form of drainage are old and unfit and as these dwellings are being condemned, so the number of cess pits etc., gets smaller.

Number of Pail Closets (Earth and Chemical)	..	..	36
Number of Septic Tanks	..	..	8
Number of Cess Pits	..	..	6

SECTION 2

Public Cleansing.



PUBLIC CLEANSING

Section 2

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Throughout the year, refuse has been disposed of by tipping at West Hill and Brompton Tip. West Hill Tip is situated in an area known locally as the Patches, an area of derelict land that can be improved by the process of controlled tipping. The site is ideal for this purpose as it is sufficiently far away from domestic and other properties to cause no nuisance, is not too far away to require a long and expensive haul and is approached by a good tarmac road.

The tip is now completely fenced and the entrance provided by a gate and cattle grid. Shortly after erection, the fence was broken in places but after these initial breakages, it has been left intact and has been effective in keeping the animals out.

The Brompton Tip is situated to the South of the district and offers only a few more years of tipping life. It has been in use as a site for the disposal of household refuse for the past fifty to sixty years and is now retained as an emergency tip to be used only when weather conditions prevent the vehicles approaching the tip at the rear of West Hill.

A small tractor is used for tip levelling and general maintenance. This machine had already had a long and useful life in the Parks Department and had been replaced by a large and new machine. The garage staff spent some time renovating this vehicle and converted it into a useful appliance for tip maintenance. As a result, the tip has been in a remarkably good condition throughout the year.

This year no complaints were received from the Public due to faulty tip maintenance. In view of the fact that a new Housing Estate has been developed in the vicinity, it is a matter of pride to this department that a refuse tip can be kept so well so as not to be the cause of nuisances resulting from rats, smells, smoke and flies to the householders.

Both tips have been regularly treated by the Rodent Operative and the rat population of both tips present no problem. The Brompton Tip is now considered completely free of rats.

COLLECTION

The curbside method of collection is practised in Tredegar. While this method might not be ideal, it is well known to be the cheapest means of collecting household and business refuse, indeed, there are parts of the town where this method of collection is the only one possible. To see rows of dustbins standing like soldiers on the main street while awaiting collection is not the prettiest of sights but this could easily be obviated if householders put their bins out for collection just prior to the arrival of the vehicle and take them in immediately they are emptied. The Council undoubtedly provides a good service in that 85% of the district is visited twice weekly.

A charge for the collection of refuse from trade premises is made in accordance with Section 73 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Although the charges were nominal, they were the cause of much resentment by a small section of the business interests of the town. Despite the fact that the imposition of the charges is made mandatory by the section and leaves the Council with no discretion in the matter. At present the charges are as follows:

Mixed Hereditaments	..	..	..	..	..	12½p. weekly.
Business Premises	..	..	..	..	..	25p. weekly.
Large Concerns & Businesses	..	..	..	..	..	£1.00 weekly.

Special collections are arranged whenever required and charged for on a time basis plus the use of the vehicle. This service has ben appreciated by many business people in the district.

VEHICLE DUTIES

Day	Beats Collected	Vehicles Used
Monday	3	5
Tuesday :: ..	3	4
Wednesday	3	3
Thursday	3	3
Friday	Town Loads + Farms + Villages	3

DUSTBINS

Some years ago, notices were served on all occupiers of properties to provide a standard dustbin under the Public Health Act, 1936.

In 1967, a Ministry of Housing & Local Government Working Party published its report on refuse collection and storage. The report concluded with many recommendations which we have endeavoured to implement. One of the recommendations was that arrangements should exist for the collection of large articles from properties, such as, discarded bedding, furniture and even the refuse resulting from the home handyman and do-it-yourself builder. This service is available in Tredegar and arrangements can be made for the collection of any article by contacting the Public Health Department by phone or letter. Depending on the size of the load and the work involved, a charge may be made. The telephone number for this service is TREDEGAR 2415.

DETAILS OF COLLECTIONS

Days	Beat
Monday & Wednesday	Gainsborough Road; Attlee Close; Aberffrwyd; Market Street; Coronation Street; Inkerman Tce; Glandovey Tce; Earl Street School; Commercial Street; North Avenue; Griffiths Square; Pembroke Street; The Crescent; Harvey's Factory; Nursery Tce; Waundeg; Rickards Yard; Twyn Star; Dukes Meadow Estate; Walterconway Avenue; Queen Street; Park Row; Castle Street; Bridge Street; Morgan Tce; Red Lion Sq.; Tramroad; High Street; Sunny View; Earl Street; Islwyn Tce.; Bevan Avenue; Maple Avenue; Brynbach Street; The Woodlands; Charles Street; Crampton Crescent; Railway Tce.; Queen Square; Mount Street; Bournville Tce.;

Days	Beat
Monday & Wednesday Continued:	Peny-bont; Arnold Place; Picton Road; Szwrfaf; Coach Bach; Attlee Way; Park View; Salisbury Street; Morgan Street; Shop Row; Park Hill; Picton Street; Church Street; West Hill; Catholic School; Union Street; Sycamore Ave; Griffiths Gardens; Ashvale; Laburnam Avenue; Greenwood Avenue; Fair View; Alexandra Place; Tynewydd, Pantydwr; Butleigh Tce.; Dukestown; Glanhwy Street; Rear of Schools; Golau - y - Mynydd.

Days	Beat
Tuesday & Thursday	Tredeggar Tce.; Bryn Picca; Harford Street; Bridge Street, Roberts Tce.; Kimberley Tce.; James Street; N.G.B. Club; Church Street; Clinic; Glyn Terrace; Bowens Tce.; Park Place; Floodrhiwgwair; Heathfield; Kimberley Villas; Walter Street; Rock House; Pittabach; Stocktonway; Park View Shops; O.A.P. Bungalows Peacehaven; Beaufort Road; Ladies Row; Harford Cottage; Bethel Avenue; Golau Tce.; York Tce.; Coach Row; The Circle; Church Parade; Brompton Place; Whitehead Tce.; Southside Edward Tce.; Ashville; Arthur Street; Ego Tce.; Rosland House & Cottage; Pant-Glas; Cein Golau Shops; Maesglas; Cripps Ave.; Mafeking Tce.; Rhoslan; King Street; Houses on Sirhowy Hill; Greenfeild Tce.; Buller Tce.; Rawlinson Tce.; Morgan St.; Carpenters Yard; St. George's Place; Vale Tce.; Woodfield Road; Rhyo Tce.; Red & White Backs; Victoria Tce.; Fields Road; Elmwood; Back of Sirhowy Inn; Tanybank; Stocktonville; Fair View Bungalows; Frondeg; O.A.P. Bungalows; Park Hill; Richmond Tce.; Rhoslan; Ystrad Deri; Gwent Way.

Days	Beat
Friday	Pochin; Bedwellty Pits; L.C.R. Components Factory; Post Office; Police Station; etc., Crown Cork Factory; 3 M's Factory; Dukestown Farms; Wholesale Grocers; Dukestown Road; Stable Lane House; Trefil; Tafarnaubach; Farms on Tramroad; Nuts & Bolts Factory; Commercial Street; (both sides) Castle Street; (Both sides) The Circle; Three Fish Shops; General Hospital; St. James Hospital; Park Place Surgery; Church Street Surgery; The Bus Station;

NOTE: Main Shops - Daily
Surgeries - Three times per week.
Hospitals - Daily

CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTIES

Domestic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,020
Commercial	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,125
Industrial Undertakings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Other Undertakings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Places of Entertainment - Clubs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Educational	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
General	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68
Total - as at 1st April, 1971.									7,296

STREET CLEANSING

The number of miles of streets swept and cleansed by the Mechanical Sweeper was 1,618 miles.

LITTER

The sweeping and removal of litter from the streets of Tredegar presents a mammoth task to the cleansing service because the problem is getting worse and more serious. No section of the community is free from blame and the careless littering of the streets is in fact another manifestation of the disregard for law and order that prevails today. It is a vandalism every bit as serious and expensive to the community as spray painting lavatory walls and damaging street lights.

Much blame must be directed to the manufacturers and wholesalers who package the most trivial purchases in boxes, bags, packets and no matter how small or unimportant the article, one can be sure that it is covered with at least two paper or cellophane coverings which often as not find themselves on the ground as litter. The twenty cigarettes in a packet for example are surrounded by a cellophane wrapper, a thin cardboard packet, a layer of silver paper and a layer of fine tissue paper. Most of these if the smoker smokes the last cigarette while walking in the street, the packet and all the coverings are thrown down on the roadway.

No matter what money is spent by a local authority by way of General Improvement Areas and Civic Trust Schemes to improve the appearance of the environment it will come to naught if the improved area is strewn with litter.

If shoppers would only take their unwanted wrappings home and not drop them on the street. If shopkeepers would only gather up the dirt from their shops and not sweep it onto the footpath after our street sweeper has passed. If only we would all ensure that the contents of our refuse bins will not blow about - only then will Tredegar look a well cared for town.

STAFF

The Public Cleansing Staff consists of five refuse vehicle drivers, with two loaders to each vehicle, while one man is employed full time on the refuse tip. Six road sweepers are employed together with the Robert Operative/Labourer.

At present their working hours are;

Monday to Friday 7.00 am to 12.30 pm
 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

The staff of the cleansing section of the department, deserves our highest praise. The work is dirty and unpleasant but of top priority, if the health and well being of the town is to be maintained. It is with great pride I am able to report that their record of attendance is unequalled by any other department. They work as a close team and are willing at all times to do that little bit extra. Most of the problems that arise between management and employees are ironed out over my office desk and I am pleased to say that the number of times during the year that this has taken place is very small.

Throughout the year, Mr. Eddie Loader, the Public Cleansing Foreman, has carried out his task of supervising the cleansing staff in a way that calls for the highest praise knowing he graduated through the department from the bottom. He knows the aspects of the job at first hand and is thus able to understand the complaints and problems of his subordinates. He carried out his job with tact and plain common sense. This I feel is largely responsible for the happy atmosphere that pervades the cleansing section of this department. Above all there is a wonderful spirit of give and take between the men and the 'OFFICE'. The men give a little bit and I give a little bit and the result is a very happy relationship between us and a clear understanding.

SICKNESS

All members of the Public Cleansing Staff qualify for 13 weeks full pay in the event of sickness, after completing one year's service. This is a boon to those that are genuinely ill and a boon to those that to not like getting up for work on a cold, wet morning after the previous : night out.

The total days lost for all causes other than paid holidays is 572 as against 459 last year and 404 the year before.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
1972	41	70	79	50	48	31

July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec	Totals
37	31	47	45	39	54	572

This figure shows an increase in the rate for the previous two years.

COST STATEMENT 1972 - 1973

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Items	Particulars	Totals	
	GROSS EXPENDITURE:	£	p
	(1) Labour	14,890	51
	(2) Transport & Plant	11,285	80
	(3) Supplies Equipment & Tools	341	44
	(4)	---	---
	Total Gross Expenditure	26,517	75
	Gross Income	3,628	40
	Net Cost	22,889	35

VEHICLES AND MAINTENANCE

VEHICLES IN USE

REFUSE COLLECTION

Vehicle	Type	Obtained
Karrier	Fore and aft tipper, diesel engine.	April, 1964.
Karrier	Fore and aft tipper, diesel engine.	August, 1965.
Bedford	Compressmore.	November, 1967.
Ford	15 cwt. Lorry..	October, 1969.
Karrier	S.D. Pakamatic.	August, 1971.
Karrier	Pakamatic.	January, 1972.

STREET CLEANSING

Vehicle	Type	Obtained
Bedford/Eagle	Gully Emptyer Street Washer	August, 1968
Bedford/Lacre	Street Sweeper	June, 1968

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Vehicle	Type	Obtained
Massey Ferguson	Tractor	August, 1967 (Second Hand from Parks Department)

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Throughout the year, the vehicles have been maintained and kept in a state of repair by Mr. Trefor Evans, the Transport Officer and his staff. The service that we have enjoyed from this Department has been superlative, and at no time throughout the year were any of our refuse collecting beats without a vehicle.

A second Pakamatic Vehicle entered the service in January. These are the Rolls Royce of refuse collecting vehicles and we hope to have good service from them.

GULLY CLEANSING

The gully cleaner was used part time throughout the year cleansing gullies.

The number of gullies cleansed during the year was 4,960.

STREET CLEANSING

The Mechanical Sweeper, together with the hand sweepers, were responsible for the cleansing of the district throughout the year. The task of cleansing Tredegar would be made much easier and certainly cheaper, if residents and shop occupiers would note the following points.

1. Place all refuse for collection in covered bins.
2. Sweepings from shops to be collected and placed in bins and not swept onto the footpath.
3. Ensure that refuse placed out for collection, cannot be blown about by the wind.
4. Take in the refuse bin as soon as it has been emptied by the cleansing department.
5. Pick up the grass that grows in front of their premises - shops and houses.
6. Refrain from dropping litter on the street.
7. Refrain from fly tipping rubbish on the mountain side and on waste ground.

SNOW CLEARANCE

This is the duty of the Surveyor, Mr. Peter Williams. All available vehicles and men from this Department are used by him for snow clearance in times of snowfall.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

These are situated as follows:-

<u>Male Conveniences</u>	<u>Waterclosets</u>	<u>Urinals</u>
Church Street	0	1
Park Row	3	1
Commercial Street	5	1
Crown, Nantybwh	0	1
<u>Ladies Conveniences</u>		
Commercial Street	5	
Morgan Street	3	
Castle Street	2	
Park Row	2	

At the beginning of the year, the staff of the Public Conveniences were as follows:-

Females

- One attendant responsible for Castle Street, Park Row, Morgan Street.
- One attendant responsible for Bus Station.

Males

- One attendant responsible for Bush Conveniences (Part-Time).
- One attendant responsible for Morgan Street (Part-Time).
- One attendant responsible for Church Street (Part-Time).
- One attendant responsible for Crown Urinals (Part-Time).
- Two attendants responsible for Bus Station (Part-Time).

All the conveniences have been attacked by vandals during the year but I think the damage has been slightly less this last year.

COST STATEMENT 1972 - 1973
STREET AND GULLY CLEANSING

Items	Particulars	Totals
1	GROSS EXPENDITURE:	
	(1) Labour	£ 3
	(2) Transport & Plant	1
	(3) Supplies Equipment & Tools	371 63
	(4) Other Items	1,742 63
		8,468 37
2	Gross Income	...
3	Net Cost	8,468 37

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Mileage of streets cleansed

Frequency of cleansing

At least once daily	.. .. .	6%
Three times weekly	.. .. .	60%
Twice weekly	.. .. .	12%
Once weekly	.. .. .	22%

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

Heads of the Valleys Road A.465

(a) Ebbw Vale Boundary - Rhymney Boundary 2.1 miles

Class I Roads

(b) A.4047 Sirhowy Bridge - Ebbw Vale Boundary 0.78 miles
(c) A.4048 Nantybwh Roundabout to North Boundary of Bedwellty U.D.C. 4.81 miles

Class II Roads

(d) B.4256 Queen Street to Rhymney Boundary 1.39 miles

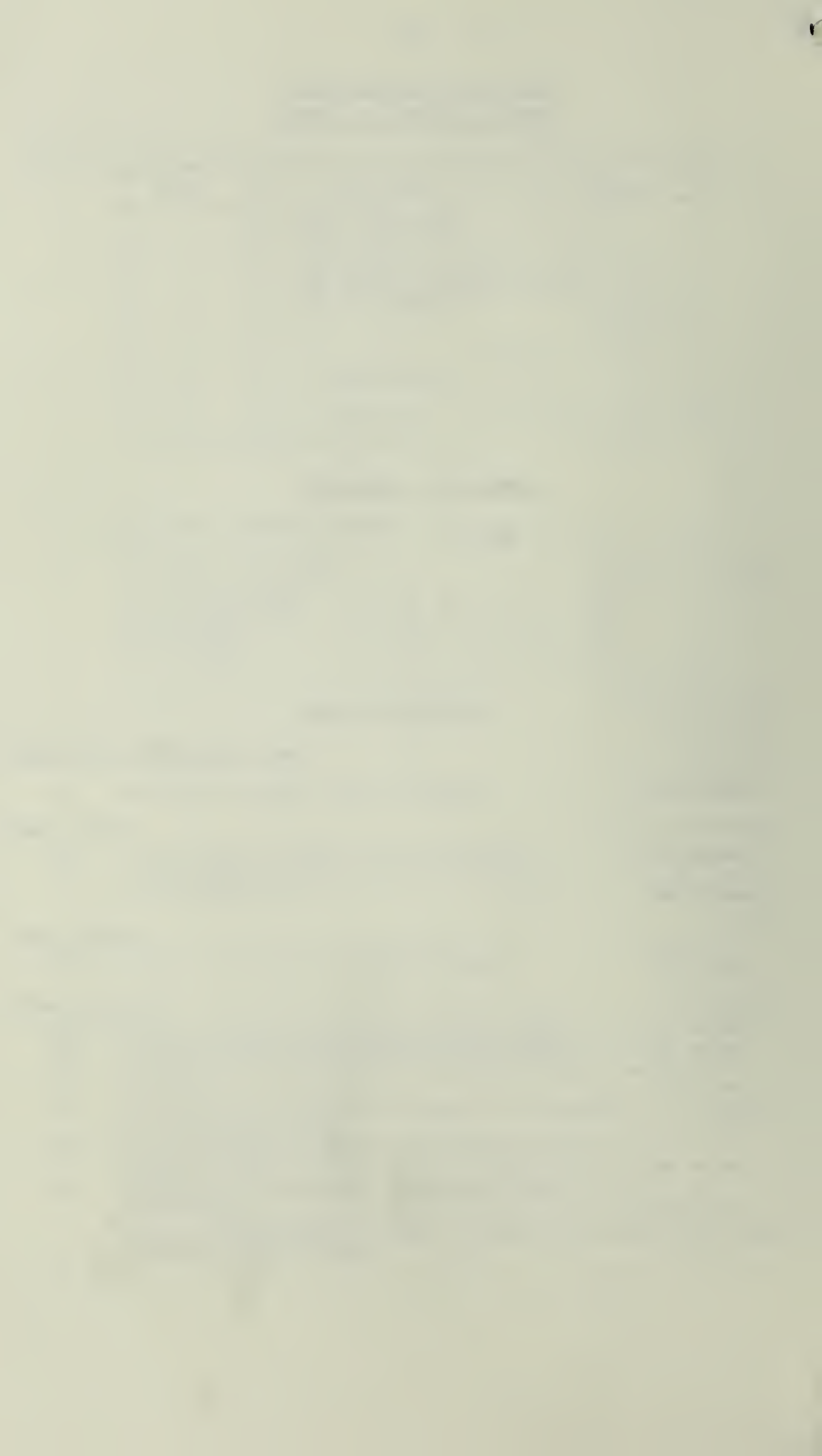
Class III Roads

(e) From A.4047 Near Crown Inn Nantybwh to Trefil 1.85 miles
(f) From A.4047 Near Railway Hotel to Station Road 3.21 miles
(g) From A.4048 at Morgan Street to Boundary at Mountain Air Gate. 1.112 miles
(h) From B.4256 Near Cefn Golau Cemetary to U.D. Boundary near Mountain Ash Inn 1.162 miles
(i) From Waenypound to Boundary of Bedwellty U.D. at Manmoel 1.44 miles
(j) From A.4048 Near Nantybwh to Rhymney Boundary at Princetown. 1.044 miles

There are approximately 46 miles of roads in the district 16.86 miles being classified as above.

SECTION 3

HOUSE



Section 3

HOUSING

The task of clearing away dwellings that were built during the early part of the Industrial Revolution continued - albeit slowly - during 1972. Although Tredegar is in the forefront with regard to the abolition of these old houses, it is sad to think that in this year of 1972, people are still living in houses that are anything up to 200 years old. Apart from minor additions such as back kitchens, bathrooms and the covering of the decayed stone walls with cement renderings of various surface finishes, they remain today much as they were in 1700, when they were built.

Only one Clearance Order was made in 1972 that being a part of Buller Terrace comprising 16 houses but a number of houses were either closed or demolished as individual, unfit properties. The table below gives details of these.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT PROPERTIES

SUBJECT OF

CLOSING ORDERS OR DEMOLITION ORDERS

Property	Date
<u>CLOSING ORDERS</u>	
47 High Street	14th March, 1972.
1a, 4, Victoria Row	17th April, 1972.
6, 7, 8, 11, Station Road	25th April, 1972.
Chapel House, Tafarnaubach	13rd May, 1972.
4, 7, 8, Lower Coronation Street	23rd May, 1972.
27 Charles Street	25th July, 1972.
63 High Street	26th September, 1972.
15 Ashville	12th December, 1972.
<u>DEMOLITION ORDERS</u>	
2, 3, Police Row	23rd May, 1972.
1, 2, Glanddwynant	23rd May, 1972.
3 Victoria Row	23rd May, 1972.
Hydesville, Queen Victoria St.	24th July, 1972.
1a Union Street	14th November, 1972.
1, 2, 3, 4, Club Row	12th December, 1972.

1. UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES

A. Inspection of Dwelling Houses During the Year

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for defects under the Housing or Public Health Act	105
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	109
2.		Number of dwelling houses included in (1) above which were inspected and rectified under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925-32	16
3.		Number of dwelling houses found unfit for human habitation	26
4.		Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human occupation (not including those above)	79

B. Remedy of Defects without Service of Statutory Notice

	Number of dwellings made fit by informal action by Council	79
--	--	----

2. STATUTORY ACTION DURING THE YEAR

A. Action under Sec. 9 & 10 Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of notices served	Nil
2.	Number of dwelling houses made fit by service of Formal Notices:	
	1. By Owner	Nil
	2. By Local Authority in default	Nil

B. Proceedings Under Sec. 16 & 23 Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of Houses on which Demolition Orders were made	11
2.	Number demolished following confirmation of Demolition Orders (Orders made before the current year)	5

C. Action Under Sec. 42 Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of Clearance Orders confirmed during yee year	Nil
2.	Number of Houses included	16
3.	Number of Compulsory Purchase Orders confirmed	16
4.	Number of houses included in Compulsory Purchase Orders	16

D. Action Under Sec. 18 Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of Closing Orders made in respect of separate tenants or underground rooms	Nil
2.	Number of dwelling houses closed	Nil
3.	Number of Closing Orders revoked	Nil

UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH
DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

(Including Houses Inspected for Loan & Grant Applications)

	By Council	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by Local Authority	101	Nil
(2) After formal notices:		
Public Health Acts 	3	Nil
Housing Act, 1957 	Nil	Nil
(3) Under Sec. 24, Housing Act	Nil	Nil

HOUSING PROGRESS

Total number of dwelling houses in the district (31st March, 1973) 6,020

Number of dwelling houses owned and controlled by the Local Authority

Pre War Houses 	1,200
Post War Houses 	1,200
Flats 	1,200
Bungalows - Traditional 	1,200
- Temporary 	78
	<hr/>
	1,860

Total number of applicants for Council Houses and Old Aged Pensioner's Bungalows at 31st December, 1972 484

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR

By Council 	15
By Private Enterprise 	14

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954, Sec. 43

(Certificate of Disrepair)

No applications were received and none granted during the year.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958, Sec. 43

(Loans for House Purchase)

During the year, 49 applications for loans were agreed, involving £72,419.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958, Sec. 43

(Loans for House Repairs)

There were 27 applications for loan for repair to properties amounting to £22,061.

HOUSING ACT, 1969, SECTION 8

(Standard Grants)

Four applications were approved for Standard Grants amounting to £765.

HOUSING ACT, 1969, SECTION 8

(Discretionary Grants)

52 applications were approved for Discretionary Grants amounting to £62,555.

SECTION 4

Food & Drugs



SECTION 4

FOOD & DRUGS

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Fish Mongers & Poultry	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Markets and Stalls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Inspection of Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Licensed Premises & Clubs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Fish Fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Food Preparing Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Street Vendors & Hawkers Carts & Delivery Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Hospitals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80
Greengrocers & Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Other Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

The Food and Drugs Authority is the County Council and during the year, 73 samples were taken in the district and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. Details of samples are as follows:-

Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Other Foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
							<u>74</u>

All samples noted above were found to be genuine.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

All meat sold in the town is brought in from outside Slaughterhouses, as there are no Slaughterhouses operating within the district. The butcher shops are visited regularly and spot checks are made of the meat and meat products exposed for sale. All was found satisfactory. Butchers like all other food traders voluntarily surrender unsound food. Certificates are given for the surrendered items which are used in their claim for reimbursement from the wholesaler.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1952 & 1963

Five visits were made to ice cream premises. There are 57 retailers of prepacked ice-cream, while one retailer makes his own from an approved cold mix.

Four samples of ice cream were taken for Bacteriological Examination, the results are as follows:-

1 - Grade 2; 3 - Grade 1;

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

(As Amended)

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (SPECIFIED AREAS)

(No. 3) ORDER, 1953

From the 1st January, 1954, it is an offence to sell milk loose in the Urban Area. This means that only milk of a special designation may be sold in Tredegar, i.e., "Pasteurised", "Ultra Heat Treated", "Untreated" and "Sterilised".

MILK SAMPLES

	Designation	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Pasteurised	20	NIL	20
Sterilised	15	..	15
				<u>35</u>

The word 'Homogenised' is not part of a special designation of milk.

FOOD INFECTIONS

The year was free from any large outbreaks of food poisoning but there were a good number of individual cases. Each case, when notified by the G.P., was visited and fully investigated. Specimens of food, when available, and faeces were taken to the Public Health Laboratory at Clytha Square, Newport.

Number of Cases Notified	.. .. .	16
Number of Visits	.. .. .	19

SECTION 5.

Offices. Shops & Railway Premises & Factories, etc.

Section 5

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Details of visits and inspections carried out under the above Act during the year, are as follows:-

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No. of premises regd. during the year.	Total number of regd. premises at end of year.	Number of regd. premises rec'g a general inspection during the year.
Offices	1	36	18
Retail Shops	5	101	73
Wholesale Shops & Warehouses	-	2	1
Catering establishments open to the public - canteens	1	7	5
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
Total	7	146	97

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises 193.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED

IN REGISTERED PREMISES

BY WORKPLACE

Class of Premises	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	147
Retail Shops	478
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	11
Catering Establishments open to the public & Canteens	45
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Totals	681
Total Males	189
Total Females	492

NOTIFICATIONS OF ACCIDENTS TO LOCAL AUTHORITY

SECTION 48

Number of Accidents 5

SIAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958. Sec. 5

No offences were reported under this enactment.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

SEC. 107. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

There are no offensive trades being carried on in the district.

HEAT APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

All heating appliances now being made and sold by retail must conform to the requirements of the above Act. Retail shops have been visited but no defective appliances were noted.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

The number of dealers registered on the 31st December, 1971, was 5.

FACTORIES ACT, 1959 - 1961

Section 110 - 111

OUTWORKERS

No outworkers are registered and I am not aware of any factory in the area employing outworkers.

TYPES OF FACTORIES IN THE AREA

Classification of Trades	Mech. Power	Non-Mech. Power	Total
Abrasives	1	-	1
Bakers	1	-	1
Building Contractors	1	-	1
Clothing Manufacturers	2	-	2
Crown Cork	1	-	1
Dentistry	1	-	1
Dry Cleaners	1	-	1
Electronic Components	1	-	1
Electric Vehicles	1	-	1
Gas Storage	1	-	1
Joinery	5	-	5
Laundrette	1	-	1
Local Authority Maintenance	1	-	1
Machine Moulding	1	-	1
N.C.B. Engineering	1	-	1
Nuts & Bolts	1	-	1
Plastic Tubing	1	-	1
Radio & Television & Repairs	2	-	2
Steel Processing	1	-	1
Sheet Metal Work	1	-	1
Stone Cutting 9	1	-	1
Training Centre	1	-	1
Vehicle Repairs	19	-	19
Watch & Clock Repairs	1	-	1
Water Board	2	-	2
Totals	50	-	50

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

Number of Factories inspected 40
 Number of Inspections 23

DEFECTS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT

Particulars	Found	Penalised	Inspected H.M. Inspector	Number of Inspections conducted
Nuisances under Public Health Act	-	-	-	-
Drainage ..	-	-	-	-
Dirty Condition	9	9	-	-
Total	9	9	-	-
Factories Act Sanitary Accommodation Unuseable or Defective ..	2	2	-	-
Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-

Following the inspection, a letter was sent to the Factory concerned pointing out the defect and requesting that it be rectified within 28 Days. In all cases the defects were rectified without delay.

PUBLIC OFFICES

The cleaning of the Public Offices has been under the supervision of Mr. G. Vaughan, who was employed as a Charistoker/Chauffeur. Mr. Vaughan is responsible for the cleaning of Radwellty House and Park Chambers and is responsible to me for his cleaning staff of two part-time female cleaners.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1926

No premises in Tredegar is registered under this Act.

SECTION 6

Rodent Control

Section 6

RODENT CONTROL

TEST BAITING OF SEWERS

Manholes Baited	Complete Takes	Part Takes	No Takes
693	19	28	665

The sewer system was treated twice during the year and the results of both treatments indicated that infestation was slight. Warfarin is used exclusively in all rodent treatment and no stocks of any other poison are held.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Year ending 31st December, 1971

Properties Other Than Sewers	Types of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	7,296	15
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	101	-
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	78	-
(ii) Mice	23	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notifications	-	-
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	-	-
4. General Treatment (river banks)	52	-

RODENT VISITS

Public Health Inspector	Rodent Operator	Total
7	252	259

DISINFESTATIONS

24 properties needed disinfestation during the year.

APATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Section 93. Public Health Act, 1936

Preliminary Notices Served	..	..	..	..	8
Preliminary Notices Compiled with	..	..	..	..	2
Statutory Notices Served..	..	..	..	..	3
Statutory Notices Compiled with	..	..	..	..	2
Visits	..	..	..	..	85

SECTION 7

General Inspections



Section 7

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

<u>Nature of Visits</u>	<u>No. of Visits</u>
Accumulations	39
Animals	5
Bakehouses	2
Problem Families	20
Dangerous Buildings	6
Drainage	13
Factories	9
General Defects in Houses	60
Council Housing Investigations	69
Interviews	201
Miscellaneous Sanitary Investigations	104
Public Conveniences	8
Rats, Mice and Pests	301
Refuse Collection	24
Refuse Disposal	40
Scrap Metal Dealers	2
Shops Act, 1950 & Offices Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963	216
Street Cleansing	65
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	1
Water Supply	73
Housing Act, 1958 Section 43 (loans)	142
Licensed Premises	10
Improvement Grants (Discretionary and Standard & Revisits)	280
Tents, Vans, Sheds & Caravans	2
Clean Air	4
Abandoned Motor Vehicles	32
Other Visits	271

DEAD ANIMALS

Over the past twelve months, 25 dead sheep were picked up off the road and disposed of. Twelve dogs, six cats and one horse were similarly dealt with.

The remarkable drop in the number of sheep killed on the roads around and in Tredegar, must be a reflection of the work done by the Parks Department in rounding up and impounding straying animals. The problem of straying animals is still with us but over the past three years, since the vigorous policy of animal pounding has been adapted and more important - executed, the streets of Tredegar are cleaner and free of sheep and horses. The Park Superintendent deserves the thanks of this Department.

SECTION 8

Atmospheric Pollution

Section 8

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

No action was taken under this Act and no smoke control area established.

Throughout the year, daily air samples have been taken to assess the amount of solid matter contained therein. These values are obtained as follows:-

A metered quantity of air is pumped through a glass fibre filter paper usually 65 to 70 cubic feet in 24 hours. The filter paper, when removed from the pump, shows a round dark stain. This is then examined by a reflectometer and a value representing the amount of solid particles per cubic meter of air is obtained.

AIR POLLUTION, 1969

Microgrammes of Solid Matter Per

Cubic Meter of Air - Per Day

Month	Average Daily amount of Solids mg.	Highest Daily amount of Solids mg.
January	46	106
February	21	82
March	35	120
April	14	33
May	14	59
June	11	38
July	17	48
August	13	46
September	36	79
October	31	98
November	39	110
December	32	118
Total	309	937
Means	25.8	78.0

This gives an average value of 25.8 microgrammes. This shows a 15% decrease in amount of dirt and solid matter in the atmosphere at Tredegar over the value for last year.

The main source of pollution in Tredegar is the domestic chimney but this I feel is not serious as most of the coal consumed in Tredegar is good quality coal that give rise to little smoke.

Certain factories in the area have experienced some difficulty in disposing of plastic waste and cutoffs, as the Council will not allow this material to be placed on the refuse tip. Although private contractors are prepared to remove this material from any premises some firms find it cheaper to burn the material on their premises in the open air.

The burning of plastic substances gives rise to dense black smoke and the practice is now an offence under the Clean Air Act, 1968, Section 1 (1).

Two factories have been written to and warned a number of times but they still persist at odd times in this anti-social habit.

COUNTY RADIO-ACTIVITY MONITORING SCHEME

Samples of air are taken four times weekly to assess the amount of Radio-Activity present in the atmosphere. This work in Tredegar, together with similar work at a few other Local Authorities, constitutes an early warning of the presence of dangerous levels of Radio-Activity which might result from an accident at one of the neighbouring nuclear power stations.

Records were maintained satisfactorily throughout the year. It means of course, Bank Holidays and Christmas Day, to change the filter paper and assess the result with the reflectometer. This I am pleased to say is being done on a voluntary basis and without remuneration.

Date	Average Counts per min. per day for 60 cubic feet of air
January	0.18
February	0.20
March	0.19
April	0.17
May	0.20
June	0.18
July	0.25
August	0.22
September	0.2
October	0.17
November	0.17
December	0.17

CONCLUSION

This is the last complete report on the Environmental Health of Tredegar that it will be my pleasure to write and present. On 1st April, 1974, Tredegar becomes part of the new District Council of Blaenau Gwent and a hundred years chapter of Local Government is about to commence. The Medical Officer of Health will disappear and the Public Health Inspector is losing his security of tenure will become the Environmental Health Officer with the Head of the Department a Chief Officer in his own right.

The duties of the new Environmental Health Department will remain largely unchanged despite the upsets and changes that reorganisation inevitably brings in its wake but whether it will give a better, a more efficient and a prompter service to the people who will, in the end, be paying for it remains very much to be seen.

The Environmental Health Officer will still be the Sanitary Inspector to many people.

Yours obediently,

O. GRIFFITHS,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

